

LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P. O. Box 2473
114 NE Railroad Avenue
Ponchatoula, LA 70454
Email: pughs@legis.state.la.us
Phone: 985.386.7844
Fax: 985.386.5669



Commerce
House and Governmental Affairs
Municipal, Parochial, and
Cultural Affairs

STEVE PUGH

State Representative ~ District 73

July 14, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

It has come to my attention that the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile is currently undergoing an approval process wherein public comments can be made regarding positive or negative effects of the merger. I would like to thank you for this opportunity and convey my strong support for the merger. The expanded broadband access that will be a part of new and improved AT&T will be very beneficial for the rural parts of Louisiana and the economic vitality of the region.

Rural parts of the country are frequently left out of the mix when technological advancements sweep the nation. That will no longer be the case should this merger gain approval. By increasing their network capacity to cover over 97% of the nation, AT&T will have one of the most inclusive broadband infrastructures that you could possibly imagine. This, in turn, will deliver state of the art wireless access to nearly every corner of the country – even rural parts of Louisiana. A wider availability of AT&T's 4G LTE wireless broadband will also enable more opportunities for individuals to work from home. In this day and age, business and government jobs are cutting costs by allowing people to work from home or telecommute. Taking steps to increase these types of innovative and efficient business practices will ultimately help get our economy back on track.

It is clear that this merger will usher in a new era of technological advancements that spread to every corner of the country. That is something that we can all get behind and that is why I hope you give this merger your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Pugh", written over a circular embossed seal.

State Representative Steve Pugh
LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SP/bv